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WHEN MAKING INQUIRIES  
RELATIVE TO THIS MATTER,  
REFER TO FILE NO.

72-3717  
S-2

TOM BRADLEY  
MAYOR

*Los Angeles City Council Planning  
Committee.*

March 11, 1976

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*Land Util. LA  
Cases.*

AMEND CITY'S CEQA GUIDELINES - CATEGORICAL EXEMPTIONS

At the meeting of the Council held March 11, 1976, the  
attached report of the PLANNING COMMITTEE was adopted.

*Rex E. Layton*

City Clerk  
aw  
attach.

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TO THE COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF LOS ANGELES

Your

P L A N N I N G

Committee

reports as follows:

The Los Angeles City Council has adopted a set of Guidelines to implement the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970 (CEQA). Periodically various amendments have been approved by the Council at the request by City Departments or in compliance with State provisions.

On February 24, 1976, your Committee considered a proposed amendment submitted by the City Attorney's office that would substitute a new Article 8 relating to Categorical Exemptions in place of the Article 8 presently contained in the City's CEQA Guidelines (pages 24-38 of existing City Guidelines).

He advises that this proposed Article has been prepared in connection with the complete revision of the Guidelines previously requested by the Planning Committee. However, the proposed new Guidelines would not be ready for submission for approximately four to six weeks. Therefore, the subject Article relating to Categorical Exemptions is being transmitted at this time in order to enable the departments to avoid unnecessary processing of Negative Declarations during the interim while the new Guidelines are being finalized.

The Categorical Exemptions relating to private applications would also save the applicants the \$100 fee charge for conducting an Initial Study and processing the Negative Declaration as well as saving the attendant staff time.

During the discussion by the Committee members, testimony was presented by a representative of the San Pedro Planning Alliance on behalf of the approximate 20 persons in the audience who expressed concern particularly with respect to Class 4 (a) involving grading on land with a slope of less than 10% involving 5,000 cubic yards and 1,000 cubic yards. Also, comments were expressed by the Deputy City Attorney and by the Chief of the Grading Engineering and Inspection Division of the Building and Safety Department.

In this connection, your Committee notes that there are two other related files involving a court decision affecting grading permits, and a Motion introduced by Councilman Gibson deleting grading permits from the City Guidelines in Section 15 of Article 6 and amending Class 4 of Section 1 of Article 8 to add a minimum amount of cubic yards.

- continued -



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TO THE COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF LOS ANGELES

- 2 -

Your

P L A N N I N G

Committee

reports as follows:

It appears to your Committee that further information is necessary before any decision is reached limiting the amount of cubic yards involved in the grading of land with a slope of less than ten percent. However, in order not to delay any action on the subject Article 8, the members of the Planning Committee feel that the issue relating to the amount of cubic yards in Class 4 (a) on Page 27 of the proposed Categorical Exemptions should be deleted and considered at a subsequent Planning Committee meeting with said two related grading permit files (CF 76-501 & S1).

In view of the above, we RECOMMEND, as recommended by the City Attorney, that the proposed amendment to the City's CEQA Guidelines to substitute a new Article 8 relating to Categorical Exemptions in place of the existing Article 8 be APPROVED as shown on the attached 19 pages (grading phrase deleted in Class 4 (a) on Page 27).

Respectfully submitted,

PLANNING COMMITTEE

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TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE  
CITY OF LOS ANGELES

P L A N N I N G

For

replies follows:

It appears to your Committee that further information is necessary before any decision is reached regarding the amount of cubic yards involved in the grading of the site with a slope of less than ten percent. However, in order not to delay any action on the subject Article 8, the amount of the Planning Commission's final decision is being referred to the amount of cubic yards in Class 2 (a) on Page 17 of the proposed (Technical) Amendment which is being and forwarded at a subsequent Planning Commission meeting with with two related grading permits (Class 2 (a) and 2 (b)).

In view of the above, the Planning Commission is recommended by the City Attorney, that the proposed Amendment to the City's Civil Code be amended to substitute a new Article 8 relating to Technical Amendment in place of the existing Article 8. The Amendment is being in place of the existing Article 8 (a) and (b) and is being attached to the proposed Amendment in Class 2 (a) on Page 17.

Respectfully submitted,

PLANNING COMMISSION

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